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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/736,715

12/16/2003

Goro Komatsu

YYC-101-A

3558

21828

7590

10/04/2005

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EXAMINER

LAI, ANNE VIET NGA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/736,715	KOMATSU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Anne V. Lai	2636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7-10 and 13-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Ko** [JP.2001191768] in view of **Trumble** [US. 3,461,423].

In claim 1, **Ko** (abstract; figs. 1-10) discloses a system monitoring pressure of tires mounted on a vehicle comprising:

a sensor unit 1 installed at each of the vehicle tire and including transmitting antenna to transmit output-sensing pressure;

a monitoring unit 2 (fig. 3) having a receiving antenna 26 and an alarm section 27, the monitoring unit receives the sensing pressure and determines whether the tire pressure is proper ; and

a battery 21 mounted on the vehicle to supply power to the alarm section.

Ko fails to disclose a manually operated switch installed in the vehicle to supply power to the alarm regardless of the operating condition of the vehicle, and bypassing the ignition switch. **Trumble** teaches a manually operated switch 1 installed in the vehicle to supply power to the alarm section regardless of the operating condition of the vehicle, while bypassing the ignition switch (figs. 1-2; col. 1, line 61- col. 2, line 15, lines 57-62). It would have been obvious to anyone of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to apply the teaching of Trumble to Ko monitoring system to supply power to the alarm regardless of the operating condition of the vehicle for the convenient of the user to activate at will the alarm section without having to turn on the ignition switch.

In claims 2 and 3, **Ko** discloses warning lamp and display panel 27 that informs the result of the determination by coloration (translation page 4, paragraph 8).

3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Ko** and **Trumble** in view of **Walenty et al** [US. 6,877,371].

In claim 6, **Ko** and **Trumble** do not specify the predetermined value is set based on a recommended cold pressure. **Walenty et al** teach a method and apparatus for detecting tire pressure comprising comparing the tire pressure output with a vehicle manufacturer's recommended cold tire pressure (col. 12, lines 19-25). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to compare the pressure output with a standard value for keeping the result conformed to a norm applied to all other vehicles.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3 and 6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 4 and 5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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6. Claims 7-10 and 13-18 are allowed over prior art of record because the cited references either alone or combined do not disclose the claimed invention.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Bachman et al disclose a gas monitor having trend indicators. [US. 4,697,450]

Sakaki et al disclose a tire condition indication system having a main switch and an activation switch to turn on the indicator. [US. 6,888,450]

Cornier, Sr. discloses a universal remote continuous monitoring tire pressure of vehicle having same frequency set for transmitters and receiver. [US. 6,011,463] (col. 3, lines 10-14).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne V. Lai whose telephone number is 571-272-2974. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:30 pm, Monday to Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hofsass Jeffery can be reached on 571-272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AVL
Sept. 20, 2005


JEFFERY HOFSSASS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600